

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 13, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am pleased to support the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) request for FASTLANE funding to provide urgently needed widening of Interstate 10 between Arizona's two largest population centers of Phoenix and Tucson.

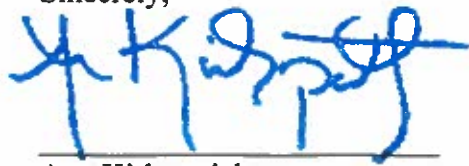
I-10 is the most heavily used interstate connection in the State of Arizona and most crucial of its "Key Commerce Corridors" – the system of trade routes that connect Arizona's economy to the major markets outside the State and around the world. With its heavy truck volume, I-10 is an essential artery connecting the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach to the entire country and is in fact the primary connection between the major population and burgeoning commercial centers of Texas and Southern California.

Although Interstate 10 controls a vast area of economic and commercial activity, its existing condition impedes the flow of freight because several sections are constricted to two lanes in each direction. This creates bottlenecks that slow the movement of people and goods and prevents those who rely upon I-10 from being as efficient and competitive as they would otherwise be.

A successful FASTLANE grant would let ADOT begin resolving these issues immediately with construction projects to widen existing choke-points between Early Road and the junction of I-8 in the Casa Grande area, as well as widening and reconstruction of the I-10/SR 87 Interchange near Picacho. Further, ADOT would start to implement "Smart Highway" technology, laying the groundwork for the ultimate inclusion of connected vehicles along the Corridor.

Addressing the ability of I-10 to handle current and projected freight traffic has significant benefits to Arizona, the entire Southwestern United States, and beyond. Because it is part of the National Highway Freight Network and the CANAMEX Trade Corridor, inefficiencies and congestion along I-10 in Arizona have impacts beyond our state and reduces mobility and economic competitiveness on a regional level. I fully support ADOT's plan to address these issues and hope you would give its FASTLANE request your every consideration.

Sincerely,



Ann Kirkpatrick
Member of Congress



David Schweikert
Member of Congress



Martha McSally
Member of Congress



Matt Salmon
Member of Congress



Paul Gosar
Member of Congress



Kyrsten Sinema
Member of Congress



Ruben Gallego
Member of Congress



Trent Franks
Member of Congress